

municipalities across the country and are available for individual municipalities, metropolitan areas, provinces, economic areas and census divisions.

The total value of permits issued for building construction in 1978 was \$13.1 billion, 5.8% higher than in 1977. Residential construction value decreased by 1.0% and overall non-residential construction value increased by 15.8%, reflecting an increase of 4.1% in the industrial, 28.4% in the commercial, and 1.7% in the institutional and government construction sectors.

Permit values rose in all provinces except Newfoundland, Quebec, Saskatchewan and British Columbia. The value of building permits issued in each province in 1977 and 1978 is given in Table 9.14, in 50 municipalities in Table 9.15 and in 23 metropolitan areas in Table 9.16. These metropolitan areas made up 64% of the 1978 total for Canada.

## 9.6 Capital expenditures

Capital spending in Canada by all sectors of the economy during 1979 was expected to reach about \$54.7 billion, an increase of 8.9% over the 1978 level of about \$50.2 billion. These estimates were in current dollars without any adjustment for price increase and reflected the intended outlays by respondents between November 1978 and January 1979. The survey covered business establishments, educational and other institutions and governments at all levels.

Intended capital expenditures on new construction in 1979 were estimated at \$34.8 billion, an increase of 7.9% over the 1978 total of \$32.3 billion. The two main elements of construction are shown at \$11.7 billion (\$11.4 billion in 1978) for residential and \$23.1 billion (\$20.9 billion) for non-residential. The increase for housing was 3.0% and for non-residential construction, 10.6%.

Acquisition of new machinery and equipment during 1979 was expected to amount to \$19.9 billion, 10.7% above the 1978 total of \$18 billion. Rates of increase were 9.2% for 1978 and 6.3% in 1977.

Table 9.17 shows the trend in capital spending over the years 1970-79 in both current and constant (1971) dollars. Table 9.18 summarizes capital and repair expenditures by economic sector and Table 9.19 contains details of the manufacturing, mining and utilities sectors for 1977-79. A summary of capital expenditures in Table 9.20, representing gross additions to the capital stock of each province and territory, reflects economic activity in the area and employment and income-giving effects in other regions. For example, spending millions of dollars on plant and equipment in Western Canada may generate considerable activity in machinery industries in Ontario and Quebec as well as construction activity in the western provinces.

### *Sources*

9.1 - 9.3 Editorial Services, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

9.4 - 9.4.4 Housing and Social Characteristics, Social Statistics Field, Statistics Canada.

9.4.5 Consumer Income and Expenditure Division, Social Statistics Field, Statistics Canada.

9.5 - 9.6 Construction Division, Economic Statistics Field, Statistics Canada.